

REPORT

(68)

Of Mr. W. H. Hay on Imperial Institute.

OTTAWA, November 3, 1904.

Hon. SYDNEY FISHER,
Minister of Agriculture,
Ottawa.

SIR,—In accordance with your instructions, I visited the Imperial Institute in London and made a careful study of the sections given over to exhibits from Canada and inclose herewith an inventory of the goods now on exhibition, together with a ground floor plan of the space occupied. The exhibit as it now stands does not do the country justice, and I beg to submit the inclosed report, offering suggestions as to the rearrangement of the present exhibits, together with the addition of such material as is necessary to make the display complete in all branches. In addition to the space shown on the plan there is a room, 55 by 40 feet, in the basement, which has been used for storage purposes. This room is well lighted and would make a first class workroom during the period of preparation and installation of the exhibits and could afterwards be used as a storeroom.

I also paid a visit to the city office and inclose herein a report dealing with the location and the manner in which the office could be fitted up so as to best serve the purposes for which it is intended.

W. H. HAY.

OTTAWA, October 17, 1904.

CITY OFFICES.

The office and show rooms chosen by the High Commissioner to be used to advance the commercial interests of Canada, are well situated for the purpose for which they are intended. Occupying as they do, a portion of the ground floor of the block known as the Guildhall Buildings, Basinghall street, off Gresham street, the balance and major portion of the floor space being occupied by the Board of Trade Commercial Intelligence Branch.

The space allotted to Canada consists of three rooms facing Basinghall street. The smallest room can be used as an office, and the two larger rooms thrown into one fitted up with wall cabinets containing specimens of woods, minerals, agricultural products, &c. Maps and photographs can be used with good effect, and a table or shelf placed in front of the windows and used for display purposes so as to show from the street.

In addition to the three rooms mentioned, the High Commissioner has arranged with the Board of Trade for the frequent use of a portion of a large room devoted to exhibition purposes in the Board of Trade's section, where special exhibits could be made from time to time of such goods as it might be found desirable to place on exhibition.

The goods on exhibition in this room at the present time consist of one case of continental linen goods, one case of skins, and leather from Queensland, one case of minerals from Honduras, a case of tobacco, a case of cotton, a case of sugar from Morocco, and a case containing samples illustrating Mr. McLean's report on Persia.

It would be an easy matter to put up a Canadian exhibit that would far outclass anything here at present.

W. H. HAY.

5-6 EDWARD VII., A. 1906

OTTAWA, October 18, 1904.

SUGGESTIONS OFFERED IN REGARD TO THE REARRANGEMENT OF THE EXHIBITS IN THE SPACE ALLOTTED TO CANADA IN THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

In arranging an exhibit of this nature, the main object should be to impress the visitor with the wonderful variety and high quality of the natural products of the Dominion. To do this successfully, I would suggest that the whole of the west wing (ground floor) be devoted entirely to the following exhibits: Agriculture, minerals, forest, fish and game.

The exhibits in these divisions should comprise samples and specimens from all parts of Canada, grouped together as Dominion exhibits and not subdivided into provincial groups and scattered as at present.

The agricultural exhibit should consist of grains, grasses, cereals and fodder plants, hemp, flax, tobacco, fruits (evaporated and in preservatives), honey, maple syrup and maple sugar, sugar beets, roots, botanical specimens, flour, cereal foods, meals, canned fruit, fish and meats, condensed milk, cream and coffee, cheese and butter, wines, beer, cider, liquors and mineral waters. (Much of this collection would be dummies only.)

Maps of the country indicating the best farming, dairying, stock-raising and fruit growing districts; charts showing the extent and value of the increase in the export of some of the leading food products in recent years; photographs of farm scenes, cheese factories, flour mills, grain elevators, canning factories, &c., should be introduced as much as possible. Models of farm implements might be included in this exhibit and would no doubt prove interesting and instructive to visitors.

Minerals.—The main feature of this exhibit should consist of large displays of economic minerals, with good specimens from mines now in operation; cases containing small specimens of all the minerals found in Canada could also find a place in this division. Here also should be introduced maps, charts and photographs illustrating the mineral wealth of the country.

Forest, Fish and Game.—This division should be given over largely to exhibits of timber in various forms, including a good display of wood pulp in its various processes of manufacture, with samples of the finished product in the shape of indurated ware, paper, &c. The mounted specimens of fish, game and birds would help to make this a most interesting section of the Canadian court. Here also should be shown photographs illustrating the lumber industry, views of some of the principal waterfalls, showing the natural power available for manufacturing purposes, also scenes in the fish and game districts which have made Canada famous as the Sportsman's Paradise.

In the arranging of all exhibits care should be taken to label the exhibits in such a way as to give, in concise form, as much information as possible.

As regards the choice of additional space, I would be in favour of occupying the north wing, which is connected by a bridge—now being built—with the main court, provided the space be fitted up and kept open to visitors, if, however, the entrance to our court be closed from the east as at present, the central gallery, now occupied by Canada, would be a more prominent and accessible position. Whatever space is selected I would devote to exhibits of manufactured goods; there is no reason why this section should not be made far more impressive and important than it is at present, and at comparatively small cost. In this division might be included a few of the best Indian curios. Here also should be shown photographs of many of the large factories and industries, which in late years have had so much to do with the commercial prosperity of the country.

Maps and charts showing the railways, canals, and waterways of the Dominion could be used to advantage.

Much of the material on hand could be overhauled and utilized, but many of the exhibits should be discarded. In the rearrangement of the exhibits, I would strongly

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 68

urge that, if possible, electric lights be introduced into the large wall cases, and also distributed freely about the exhibits, cut-offs could be placed in different parts of the hall, so that any section could be lighted at will. On dull days and special occasions the artificial light would be very advantageous. In view of the fact that we have a country, vast in area and rich in products of almost endless variety, there is no reason why we should not have the finest exhibit in the institute, an exhibit that would be an object lesson to visitors and impress them with the fact that Canada is indeed a land of wonderful resources.

W. H. HAY.

INVENTORY OF EXHIBITS FROM CANADA IN THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

Ground floor—west wing—

- 2 wall cases, 10 x 2 x 7½ ft., containing grain (Manitoba).
- 2 " 8 x 2 x 6 ft. " "
- 2 " 9 x 2 x 6 ft. " "
- 2 " 10 x 2 x 6 ft. " "
- 2 " 11 x 2 x 6 ft. " "
- 1 wall case, 5 x 2 x 6 ft. " grain and furs.
- 1 case (all glass), 5 x 5 x 9 ft., grain, flour and photographs. Exhibit by Lake of the Woods Milling Company.
- 1 case (on table), 4 x 5½ x 6½ ft., containing birds (Manitoba).
- 1 case, 4 x 4 x 9 ft., containing hemlock bark, specimens of tanned leather (Millers Tanning Extract Company), private case.
- 1 case (all glass), 8½ x 4½ x 3½ ft., containing tinned goods, Indian curios, pamphlets, &c.
- 1 case (all glass), 6½ x 4½ x 3½ ft., containing canned fruits, grain, botanical specimens, minerals, &c.
- 1 case (all glass), 9 x 3½ x 10 ft., containing grain in straw, and threshed wheat.
- 1 case (all glass), 6 sides, 2½ x 7 ft., containing paints, enamels, oils, varnishes, &c. (Canada Paint Co.).
- 1 wall case, 10½ x 1½ x 8 ft., containing boots and shoes, bottled fruit and samples of cotton goods.
- 1 case, 6½ x 4½ x 7 ft., containing samples of cottons (Dominion Cotton Mills Company).
- 1 case (octagon), 1½ x 12 ft., containing samples of Bovril Co.'s products.
- 1 case (all glass), 14 x 4½ x 3½ ft., containing one seal, one large fish, mica, snow-shoes, cotton goods, &c.
- 1 wall case, 16 x 1½ x 8 ft., containing furs (Hudson's Bay Co.).
- 1 case, 10½ x 1½ x 15 ft., containing furs (Hudson's Bay Co.).
(These are fine furs and appear to be in good condition.)
- 1 case (18-in. base, balance glass), 7½ x 5½ x 8 ft., containing birds (Quebec).
- 2 small corner cases, 2 x 2½ x 6 ft., containing asbestos (The United Asbestos Co.).
- 1 case, 11 x 2½ x 3½ ft., containing asbestos and mineral specimens (Quebec).
- 1 case, 11 x 2½ x 3½ ft., containing minerals (Quebec).
- 1 case, 11 x 2½ x 3½ ft., containing canned goods and Indian curios.
- 1 wall case, 20 x 1½ x 8 ft., containing Indian curios, grain, &c. (B.C.).
- 1 wall case, 11½ x 2½ x 3½ ft., containing minerals (N.S.).
- 2 wall cases, 10 x 2½ x 3½ ft., containing minerals (N.S.).
- 3 wall cases, 8 x 2½ x 3½ ft., containing Indian curios and grain (Manitoba).
- 1 wood exhibit, 26 x 10 ft. (N.B.), containing 15 sections of logs—3 ft. high and averaging about 5 feet in circumference—of the following species: Pine, spruce, larch, pine, hemlock, canoe birch, grey birch, sugar maple, red or swamp maple, beech, red oak, grey oak, black ash (2 specimens), basswood. On top of these sections, which are in the rough, is a fancy design of polished woods.
- 1 large plank, 7½ x 15 ft., Douglas fir (B.C.).

5-6 EDWARD VII., A. 1906

- 2 specimens deer.
- 1 small case gold quartz (N.S.).
- 2 large blocks coal (N.S.).
- 5 small cases coal (N.S.).
- 17 small building stones.
- 1 rack saddlery (Strathcona Horse).
- 21 cases mounted fish.
- 6 photographs, 3 x 5 ft. (Manitoba scenes).
- 8 photographs, 3 x 5 ft. (Nova Scotia scenes).
- 2 large western Canada scenes, about 12 x 17 ft., Harvesting and Threshing.

Ground floor—north wing—

- 22 cases mounted fish in good condition.
- 1 case birds (Quebec).
- 1 case corundum.
- 1 large block Pacific coast coal (weight about 2 tons).
- 12 photographs (Grand Trunk).
- Scenes in the Georgian bay and Muskoka lakes districts.
- Exhibit from the Canada Furniture Manufacturing Company, as follows:—
- 3 oak desks.
- 1 small typewriter desk (walnut).
- 2 revolving chairs (oak).
- 7 chairs (mixed lot).
- 1 hat-rack (oak).
- 1 extension table (oak).
- 4 small tables (oak).

A large collection of minerals from British Columbia, sent to the Institute from the Wolverhampton exhibition.

Upper Central Gallery—

- 1 wall case, $11\frac{1}{2}$ x $2\frac{3}{4}$ x $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft., containing minerals (B.C.). Small panels of B.C. woods on wall.
- 1 wall case, $11\frac{1}{2}$ x $2\frac{3}{4}$ x $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft., containing minerals (Ont.).
- 1 wall case, $11\frac{1}{2}$ x $2\frac{3}{4}$ x $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft., containing minerals (Ont.).
- 2 wall cases, $3\frac{1}{2}$ x $2\frac{3}{4}$ x $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft., containing minerals (Ont.).
- 1 wall case, $11\frac{1}{2}$ x $2\frac{3}{4}$ x $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft., containing minerals (Ont.).
- This case has a 3-ft. high shelf back.
- 1 wall case, $11\frac{1}{2}$ x $2\frac{3}{4}$ x $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft., containing minerals (Ont.).
- This case has a high back filled with grain.
- 1 wall case, $11\frac{1}{2}$ x $2\frac{3}{4}$ x $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft., containing minerals and grain.
- 1 case (all glass), 10 x $5\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 ft., containing birds and animals.
- 1 case, $6\frac{1}{2}$ x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft., containing minerals (B.C.).
- 1 oval step stand, 13 x 8 x 9 ft., containing grain in bottles.
- 1 screen stand, containing 24 photos of trees framed in the wood of the tree represented.
- 1 stand, 4 x 4 x 6 (pedestal), building stones from Quebec and Ontario.
- 1 case (all glass), 14 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft., containing minerals, &c.
- 1 oval step stand, 13 x 10 x 12 ft., containing bottled fruits.
- 1 glass case (on table), 7 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 ft., containing canned goods.
- 1 glass case (on table), 7 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 ft., containing wines and whisky.
- 25 photographs (Grand Trunk).
- 1 mantle, made of birdseye maple.
- 2 canoes.
- 1 dressed wood exhibit, $9\frac{1}{2}$ x 2 x 9 ft. (Ont.).

W. H. HAY.

November 3, 1904.